

REMARKS


In the Office Action of September 21, 2004, the Examiner stated that claim 27 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 27 has been canceled, and the elements therein, including any intervening claims, have been incorporated into independent claim 24.

Likewise, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the elements of canceled claim 19, and the elements of claim 27. Accordingly, for the same reasons that claim 27 was indicated as allowable if rewritten, claim 1 and dependent claims 2-18, 21-22 are now submitted to be in condition for allowance. None of the cited art teaches the inventions of independent claims 1 and 24, as amended, nor their respective dependent claims.

Claim 23 has been canceled.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully asks that the Examiner withdraw the § 103 rejections. Believing that all matters raised in the Examiner's September 21, 2004 Office Action have been addressed, Applicant respectfully asks that the claims be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Mason". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Mason" clearly distinguishable.

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